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Forty-fifth session
SECOND COMMITTEE

DRAFT BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE SECOND COMMITTEE FOR 1991-1992

Note by the Secretariat

The General Assembly, in resolution 39/217 of 18 December 1984, paragraph 5, requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Second Committee for consideration and approval each year a proposed biennial programme of work. The draft biennial programme of work of the Second Committee for 1991-1992, which is annexed to the present document, has been prepared on the basis of existing legislative authority. It also takes into account the draft proposals on which the Second Committee has taken action. The draft proposals that are pending action by the Committee have been placed in square brackets. The information contained in the annex, including that on documentation, will be updated orally by the Secretariat when the draft biennial programme of work for 1991-1992 is considered by the Committee.

The attention of the members of the Second Committee is drawn to the ever increasing number of separate items proposed for inclusion in the programme of work of the Committee. The number of separate items has increased from 6 at the forty-second session to 16 proposed items for the forty-sixth session. The Committee may wish to reconsider, at some future date, the implementation of General Assembly resolution 39/217, entitled "Biennial programme of work for the Second Committee", as the proliferation of new separate items, some of which are being considered annually, appears to be inconsistent with the intention of that resolution.

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ANNEX

Draft biennial programme of work for the Second Committee for 1991-1992 a/

(as at 12 December 1990)

1991

Item 1. Report of the Economic and Social Council b/

(a) Role of the public sector

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the role of the public sector in promoting the economic development of developing countries (General Assembly resolution 3335 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/92 of 9 July 1987) c/

(b) Target for World Food Programme pledges for the period 1993-1994

Documentation Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

(c) Permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on Israeli land and water policies and practices in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories (Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/53 of 24 July 1990) c/

(d) Assistance to the Palestinian people

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people (Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/59 of 26 July 1990 and General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.12) c/

(e) Prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)

Documentation Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization on the implementation of the resolution on the prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.51) c/

(f) Special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council

Documentation Relevant part of the report of the Economic and Social Council (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.43)

(g) Code of conduct on transnational corporations

Documentation Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the code of conduct on transnational corporations (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.71)

(h) Inclusion of Namibia in the list of the least developed countries

Documentation Relevant part of the report of the Economic and Social Council (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.54/Rev.1)

Item 2. Development and international economic co-operation

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolution on economic stabilization programmes in developing countries (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.36/Rev.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolution on large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.77)

Report of the President of the Economic and Social Council on the outcome of the informal exchange of views on the report of the South Commission (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.80)

(a) Trade and development

Documentation Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its eighth session (General Assembly resolution 44/219 of 22 December 1989)

Report of the Trade and Development Board (General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964) c/

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolution on economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries (General Assembly resolution 44/215 of 22 December 1989)

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Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on progress in the implementation of specific action related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries (General Assembly resolution 44/214 of 22 December 1989)

Report of the Secretary-General on institutional developments related to the strengthening of international organizations in the area of multilateral trade (Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/57 of 26 July 1990) c/

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the views of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the strengthening of international organizations in the area of multilateral trade (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.91) c/

Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the outcome of the negotiations on a draft international code of conduct on the transfer of technology (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.69)

(b) Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.96

(c) Effective mobilization and integration of women in development

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the effective mobilization and integration of women in development (General Assembly resolution 42/178 of 11 December 1987) c/

(d) World Decade for Cultural Development

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the progress of the World Decade for Cultural Development for the period 1990-1991 (General Assembly resolutions 41/187 of 8 December 1986, 44/238 of 22 December 1989 and A/C.2/45/L.64) c/

(e) Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries

Documentation Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (General Assembly resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978) c/

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolution on economic and technical co-operation among developing countries (General Assembly resolution 44/222 of 22 December 1989 and decision A/C.2/45/L.26)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolution on co-operation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (General Assembly resolution 44/221 of 22 December 1989)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the decision on further strengthening and improving intergovernmental programming exercises for technical co-operation among developing countries (General Assembly decision 44/450 of 22 December 1989)

(f) Environment

Documentation Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (General Assembly resolutions 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and 44/224 of 22 December 1989) c/

Note by the Secretary-General on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment (General Assembly resolution 3436 (XXX) of 9 December 1975)

Relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council on the findings and conclusions of the regional commissions on the traffic in toxic and dangerous products and wastes (General Assembly resolution 44/226, sect. I, of 22 December 1989)

Report of the Secretary-General on the control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal (General Assembly resolution 44/226, sect. III, of 22 December 1989) c/

Progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolution on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187 of 11 December 1987 (General Assembly resolution 44/227 of 22 December 1989) c/

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolution on possible adverse effects of sea-level rise on islands and coastal areas, particularly low-lying coastal areas (General Assembly resolution 44/206 of 22 December 1989) c/

(g) Desertification and drought

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in countries stricken by desertification and drought in Africa (General Assembly decision 44/437 of 19 December 1989 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/103 of 27 July 1989) c/

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolutions on the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification (General Assembly resolutions 44/172 A and B of 19 December 1989) c/

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region (General Assembly resolutions 3054 (XXVIII) of 17 October 1973 and 40/209 of 17 December 1985) c/

(h) Human settlements

Documentation Report of the Commission on Human Settlements, including the report of the Commission on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 (General Assembly resolutions 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 43/180, 43/181 of 20 December 1988 and Council resolution 1978/1 of 12 January 1978) c/

Report of the Secretary-General on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories (General Assembly resolution 44/174 of 19 December 1989) c/

(i) Science and technology for development

Documentation Report of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development (General Assembly resolutions 34/218 of 19 December 1979 and 39/217 of 18 December 1984) c/

(j) Entrepreneurship

Documentation Relevant section of the report of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation on the operational activities of the United Nations system (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.27/Rev.2)

Item 3. United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

Documentation Report of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (General Assembly resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989)

Item 4. Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the progress of the negotiations for the preparation of an effective framework convention on climate change (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.93)

Item 5. International co-operation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on international co-operation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries (General Assembly resolutions 44/211 and 44/212 of 22 December 1989)

Item 6. External debt crisis and development

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.97

Item 7. Operational activities for development

(a) Operational activities of the United Nations system

Documentation Report of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation on the operational activities of the United Nations system (General Assembly resolutions 41/171, 44/171 of 19 December 1989, 44/211 of 22 December 1989, A/C.2/45/L.27/Rev.2 and [A/C.2/45/L.75] c/

(b) United Nations Development Programme

Documentation Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme c/

(c) United Nations Capital Development Fund

Documentation Relevant chapter of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme

(d) United Nations technical co-operation activities

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations technical co-operation activities

Relevant chapter of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme

(e) United Nations Volunteers programme

Documentation Relevant chapter of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme

(f) World Food Programme

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the participation of the United Nations in the review of the governance arrangements for the World Food Programme (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.63) c/

Item 8. International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (General Assembly resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989 and A/C.2/45/L.73) c/

Item 9. Special economic and disaster relief assistance

(a) Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (General Assembly resolutions 2816 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971 and A/C.2/45/L.67) c/

(b) Special programmes of economic assistance

Documentation Reports of the Secretary-General on individual countries

Reports of the Secretary-General presenting summary reports on countries with no separate individual reports in that year

Item 10. International assistance for the economic rehabilitation of Angola

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.14/Rev.1

Item 11. Training and research

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.89, including the report of the independent consultant

Item 12. International co-operation to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the disaster at Chernobyl

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.49 c/

Item 13. Human resources development

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.78

Item 14. Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Co-operation, in particular the Revitalization of the Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the steps taken by the Governments of developed and developing countries and by the bodies of the United Nations system to fulfil the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.83)

Item 15. Industrial development co-operation and the diversification and modernization of productive activities in developing countries

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on ways and means of promoting the enhancement of United Nations activities with regard to the training of scientists, engineers and entrepreneurs from developing countries (General Assembly resolution A/C.2.45/L.42/Rev.1, para. 9)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on ways and means of fostering United Nations system activities with regard to industrial development co-operation and the diversification and modernization of productive activities in developing countries (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.42/Rev.1., para. 10)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the recommendations of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization on strengthening industrial development co-operation and the diversification and modernization of productive activities in developing countries (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.42/Rev.1, para. 13) c/

Item 16. Emergency assistance for the economic and social rehabilitation of Liberia

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.86

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1992 d/

Item 1. Report of the Economic and Social Council e/

(a) Protection against products harmful to health and the environment

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on protection against products harmful to health and the environment (General Assembly resolution 39/229 of 18 December 1984) c/

(b) United Nations Population Award

Documentation Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund on the United Nations Population Award and Trust Fund (Council decision 1982/112 of 26 April 1982)

(c) Restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system

Documentation Draft resolution entitled "Implementation of section II of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system" (General Assembly decision A/C.2/45/L.29)

Item 2. Development and international economic co-operation

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.35/Rev.1 on the support of the international community for the economic and social infrastructure of Yemen c/

Report of the Secretary-General on net transfer of resources between developing countries and developed countries (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.94)

(a) Implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.72) c/

(b) Trade and development

Documentation Report of the Trade and Development Board (General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964) c/

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on world commodity trends and prospects (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.84)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.56/Rev.1 on specific measures in favour of island developing countries

(c) Food and agricultural development

Documentation Report of the World Food Council c/

(d) New and renewable sources of energy

Documentation Report of the Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy (General Assembly resolution 37/250 of 21 December 1982) c/

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.37/Rev.1

(e) Development of the energy resources of developing countries

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on a comprehensive programme of action for the acceleration of the exploration and development of energy resources in developing countries (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.90) c/

(f) Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on further substantive follow-up to General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187 by Governments and organizations of the United Nations system (General Assembly resolution 44/227 of 22 December 1989)

(g) Co-operation in fisheries in Africa

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on co-operation in fisheries in Africa (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.46) c/

Item 3. Operational activities for development

(a) Operational activities of the United Nations system

Documentation Report of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation for the comprehensive triennial policy review of operational activities for development undertaken by the United Nations system (General Assembly resolutions 35/81 of 5 December 1980, 41/171 of 5 December 1986, 42/196 of 11 December 1987, and 44/211 of 23 February 1990) c/

(b) United Nations Development Programme

Documentation Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme c/

(c) United Nations Population Fund

Documentation Relevant chapter of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme

(d) United Nations Children's Fund

Documentation Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution A/C.2/45/L.74 c/

(e) World Food Programme

Documentation Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Item 4. Training and research

United Nations University

Documentation Report of the Council of the United Nations University c/

Item 5. Special economic and disaster relief assistance

(a) Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (General Assembly resolution 2816 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/63 of 26 July 1990)

(b) Special programmes of economic assistance

Documentation Reports of the Secretary-General on individual countries and regions

Report of the Secretary-General presenting summary reports on countries with no separate individual reports in that year

Notes

a/ The Second Committee will, in accordance with established practice and in pursuance of General Assembly decision 38/429, hold a general debate each year at the beginning of its work.

b/ The list of questions and documentation under this item is only indicative of requests for reports from the General Assembly. The list will be finalized after the Economic and Social Council completes its work in 1991.

c/ Report submitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

d/ The programme of work and documentation list for 1992 will be updated in 1991, taking into account the relevant decisions of the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session.

e/ The list of questions and documentation under this item is only indicative of requests for reports from the General Assembly. The list will be finalized after the Council completes its work in 1992.